

included the abolition of signalling arrangements, increased mean speed of travelling, and increased comfort due to more gradual acceleration and retardation of the train.

Owing to the late hour only a brief discussion was possible; and a very successful meeting terminated with votes of thanks to the president and vice-presidents.

E. G. COKER.

### ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

NOTWITHSTANDING the comparatively small numbers attending the meeting of the association at Portsmouth, the audiences in Section H, which met under the presidency of Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, F.R.S., were well up to the average, at any rate in the morning sessions. In the afternoons the attendances were sometimes small, owing, no doubt, to the attractive nature of the local arrangements for the entertainment of members. In the circumstances it was thought advisable to abandon the sectional meeting on the afternoon of the naval display, and to adopt the unusual course of holding an evening session. The wisdom of the change was made apparent by the large audience which listened to the postponed papers by Mr. R. R. Marett and Prof. A. Keith.

The papers communicated to the section attained a uniformly high level: some may be counted as of first importance; and it is perhaps not unsafe to say that the discussions on totemism and on the institution of an Imperial Bureau of Anthropology will be of far-reaching effect.

The discussion on totemism, to which the whole of a morning session was devoted, was opened by Dr. A. C. Haddon, who explained that totemism was usually regarded as the association of definite human groups with non-human groups. After citing typical instances, he pointed out that even in Australia there was much variation, and other customs and beliefs might be present. Similar variability also obtained in other parts of the world, so that it had become extremely difficult to frame a definition of totemism that would hold good everywhere. Although it was primarily a social and not a definitely religious institution, in most cases it could not be distinguished from a religious sentiment. Dr. A. A. Goldenweiser remarked that all attempts to characterise totemism by a more or less definite set of features must needs be artificial. Consequently, its distinctive characteristics were not the individual features, but the relation into which they entered. Dr. Graebner, whose paper, in the unavoidable absence of the author, was read by the president, said that every attempt to account for the origin of totemism must first deal with the question whether this institution was a cultural entity, for if it were once conceded that the form of totemism found in different parts of the earth had arisen independently, there could be no justification for the assumption that it had had everywhere the same origin. An examination of the evidence from the South Seas, from Africa, from South and North America, and from Asia would appear to show that this was the case; there were no older forms from which group totemism could be derived. In the older form, in which totems were animals, there was an indefinite and unstable relation of sympathy between man and beast which could be explained simply by certain groups of men and animals having co-existed locally in a region of diversified physical character. Prof. Hutton Webster in his paper on the relations between totem clans and secret societies pointed out that secret societies, although acting as a native police in West Africa and Melanesia, were not consciously devised for this purpose. Investigation revealed the importance of the part played by them in funeral rites, and especially in initiation ceremonies at puberty. These and other features appeared to be closely connected with the structure and function of totemic clans, and he suggested that they had been transferred to the secret society in the course of the disintegration of ancient totemic groupings. In discussing methods of investigation, Prof. E. Waxweiler said that light could only be thrown on the question of totemism by the application of a scrupulously accurate method of analysis, which should be mainly sociological, i.e. it should consider the so-called totemic facts as being

imposed by the conditions of organised social life amongst men. Further, its starting point should be "functional", it must search for the social function from which totemism had sprung. Analysing the phenomena of totemism on these lines, it would appear that functionally it was a social device for sanctioning permanent situations, which were considered essential or peculiar in the organisation of the group, wherein individuals, or more frequently groups of individuals, appeared to remain.

The discussion on an Imperial Bureau of Anthropology was opened by a paper by Mr. J. Gray, who dealt specifically with the anthropometric work which might be carried out under the supervision of such a bureau, and laid stress upon its importance not only to the man of science but to the statesman and social reformer. Mr. T. C. Hodson, in a paper dealing with the ethnographic side of the work, gave an account in outline of the ethnographic and linguistic investigations instituted by the Government in India, the Sudan, and southern Nigeria, and dwelt on the importance of the extension and organisation of such work through a central body as a means of securing sympathetic administration of the affairs of dependent races and of ensuring that they should be trained on right lines to take their place as constituent parts of the Empire. In the discussion which followed the reading of the papers, Prof. J. L. Myres made a detailed survey of the efforts of the British Association at various times to obtain the cooperation of the Government, and expressed a hope that urgent pressure might bring Government departments and public opinion to a sense of the responsibility of this country for a proper record of our own population and of the ways of life of our large masses of native dependents abroad. Prof. Ridgeway recalled the memorials which had been presented to the Government by the Royal Anthropological Institute, and emphasised, by an apt citation of Mr. Crooke's paper on the cow in India, the importance to administrators and commercial men of the information concerning customs and beliefs which such a bureau would make accessible. The Rev. Dr. Bryce explained the organisation of the Canadian Ethnographical Survey, which had been set up as a department of the Geological Survey as a result of the representations made to the Canadian Government by the association at its Winnipeg meeting, and Prof. Hutton Webster gave a brief description of the work of the United States Bureau of Ethnology.

Among the remaining contributions to the proceedings, archæology held first place in point of numbers, although papers of an ethnographical character were more numerous than they had been for the last few years. With one exception, however, these dealt with particular points of research, and were not generally descriptive of a geographical or cultural area. The exception was Captain Rawling's account of the tribes of the Mimika district, of the tribes of the sea coast, and of the Tapiro pygmies encountered by the recent expedition to Dutch New Guinea, which is likely to provide ethnologists with material for discussion for some time to come. Mr. Crooke's paper on the reverence for the cow in India attributed the recent extension of the recognition of the sanctity of the cow, which had existed in a more restricted degree since Indo-Iranian times, to the rise of Neo-Brahmanism. Prof. Hutton Webster's paper on the origin of rest-days proffered an elucidation of Hebrew and Babylonian Sabbatical observances by bringing them into relation with the periods of communal cessation from work and of fasting, as a protective or conciliatory measure, among lower races on critical, usually seasonal, occasions. Mr. Hobley's account of the religious beliefs of the Akikuyu and Akamba of British East Africa dealt, among other matters of belief and ritual, with the *Thahu*, an analogue of the mediæval curse, and its effect on social custom and culture. Major A. J. N. Tremearne described the customs and beliefs of the Hausas in so far as these may be deduced from, or illustrated by, an analysis of their legends and folklore. Dr. C. G. Seligmann raised many points of interest in his important paper on the divine kings of the Shilluk. It is noteworthy that these kings, who trace their descent from Nyakan, a semi-divine founder, are sacrificed ceremonially when they become senile or

ill to avert disaster to men, crops, and animals. Mr. Malinowski's paper on the economic influence of the Intichiuma ceremonies opened up an interesting field of research by suggesting that in the totemic ceremonies of the Australian tribes we may find the educative influence which led man first to overcome the primitive reluctance to systematic, continuous, or periodic organised effort which is the essential feature of economic labour.

In physical anthropology, Prof. C. J. Patten communicated further results of investigations of division of the parietal bone in the crania of certain Primates. A group of papers was offered by Prof. Arthur Keith describing a cranium of Cro-Magnon type from Dartford, a second skeleton from Galley Hill, and fossil bones of man discovered by Colonel Willoughby Verner in a cave near Ronda, in Spain. These papers, in conjunction with a paper by Mr. R. R. Marett on the excavation of caves in Jersey, in which Mousterian implements were found associated with remains of Pleistocene mammals, and human teeth which Prof. Keith regards, on morphological grounds, as belonging to the most primitive human type yet known, gave rise to an interesting discussion on the antiquity of man.

In addition to the paper by Mr. Marett, the archaeological papers included three papers on American archaeology. These were a short account by Mr. Warren K. Moorehead of the classification of American types of artefacts made by a committee of the American Association and of the Anthropological Society, a description of the paintings in the Temple of the Tiger at Chichen Itza by Miss A. C. Breton, and a comprehensive account of the present position of archaeological study in Peru by the same author.

The study of British archaeology was represented by papers by the Rev. Dr. Irving on further finds of horse and other prehistoric mammalian remains at Bishop's Stortford; by Mr. T. Davies Pryce on excavations on a Roman fortified post on the Nottinghamshire Fosseway, covering the excavations of 1910 and 1911; an exhaustive summary of our knowledge of prehistoric man in Hampshire, by Mr. W. Dale; and a suggestive paper by Mr. O. G. S. Crawford on the early Bronze age in Britain, in which he endeavoured to trace the main lines of communication and indicate the chief centres of population from a study of geographical conditions and the distribution of Bronze age finds. A paper by Mr. A. L. Lewis entitled "Dolmens or Cromlechs," in which the author, as the result of comparative study of a large number of stone monuments, arrived at the conclusion that these were not the work of one race, but rather a phase of culture through which many races have passed, was especially interesting on account of its variance from the conclusion of Prof. Elliot Smith in his paper on the relations and influence of the Egyptians under the ancient Empire. The latter attempted to explain the distribution of megalithic monuments by the hypothesis that they were introduced into European culture by the Armenoid population in Egypt, of which he had found traces. The Armenoid or Celtic peoples who invaded Europe through the Balkan Peninsula, although they had acquired the use of metal from contact with the Egyptians in Asia, did not build megalithic monuments, because they were not acquainted with Egyptian methods of architecture. Egyptian archaeology was further represented by papers from Prof. W. M. Flinders Petrie on his recent discoveries of Roman portraits at Hawara, and Mr. G. A. Wainwright's paper on his important discovery of iron beads of pre-dynastic date in un plundered graves at El-Gerzeh.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

GLASGOW.—The appointments made to the new chairs in the medical faculty in connection with the clinical school at the Royal Infirmary are as follows:—St. Mungo chair of pathology, Dr. John A. Teacher; Muirhead chair of obstetrics and gynaecology, Dr. John M. Munro Kerr; Muirhead chair of medicine, Dr. Walter K. Hunter; St. Mungo chair of surgery, Dr. Robert Kennedy.

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MR. A. J. GROVE, 1851 Exhibition scholar, has been appointed supernumerary entomologist to the Indian Agricultural Service at Pusa, under the Indian Government.

THE foundation-stone of a new wing for the applied science department of Sheffield University was laid on September 28 by Judge Denman Benson. The buildings of the applied science department have become crowded, and the Drapers' Company has given 15,000*l.* for extensions. The total cost will be nearly 40,000*l.*, and towards this the sum of more than 8000*l.* is still required.

It has been reported to the executive committee of Ruskin College, Oxford, that the late Mr. C. S. Buxton, formerly vice-principal of the college, son of Mr. Sydney C. Buxton, President of the Board of Trade, has bequeathed to the college the sum of 5000*l.* unconditionally. It is proposed to name the lecture-room in the new college buildings "The Buxton Hall," and a suitable memorial tablet will be erected.

THE programme of lectures and discussions arranged by the Child Study Society, London, for October–December includes the following:—October 19, "Co-education during Adolescence," Dr. A. Beresford Kingsford; November 2, "Psychology and Grammar," H. Holman; November 9, "Psychology of Speech," Prof. W. Rippmann; November 23, "Psychology of Reading," T. G. Tibbey; December 7, "Psychology of Mathematics," Dr. W. Brown.

At the Sir John Cass Technical Institute, E.C., tomorrow, October 6, the inaugural lecture of a course on colloids will be given by Mr. E. Hatschek, his subject being "The Properties of Colloids and their Relation to Industrial Processes." On Tuesday, October 10, Mr. Hugh Abbot will give an inaugural lecture on the fermentation industries, entitled "A Review of Modern Practice in the Bottled Beer Trade"; and on Monday, October 16, Mr. J. S. S. Brame will lecture on "Coal for Steam Raising: its Purchase on a Scientific Basis and its Economic Use," being the inaugural lecture of the courses on fuel.

ATTENTION has been directed already (August 10 and September 21) to the new arrangements for the session 1911–12 at University College, London, in the faculties of engineering and medical sciences. The recent issue of the complete calendar of the college makes it possible to add to the information in the note referred to. The organisation of the department of applied statistics is being completed, and it now includes the Galton laboratory for national eugenics and the Drapers' Company biometric laboratory, under the direction of Prof. Karl Pearson, F.R.S. In the faculty of engineering a new lectureship in heating and ventilating engineering has been instituted.

THE Home Universities Committee held a meeting at the University of London on September 29 to arrange the subjects for discussion at the Congress of the Universities of the Empire to be held next summer. Each of the universities of the United Kingdom was represented by its Vice-Chancellor or his deputy, and various representatives from Government offices were also present. The suggestions received from overseas universities in response to the communications sent after the last meeting of the Home Universities Committee, and the report of a preliminary Conference of Canadian Universities, were considered. Some of the more important topics for discussion were decided upon, and the committee appointed a subcommittee to draw up a programme for the consideration of the full committee, which will meet again on November 4. A draft paper of subjects which the committee sent out in November last includes the following topics:—(1) university organisation; (2) universities in their relations to teachers and undergraduate students; (3) universities in their relation to post-graduate and research work; (4) universities in their relation to schools and to other agencies for higher education.

THE regulations for the establishment of a post-graduate scholarship in naval architecture, offered by the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, have just been issued by the Institution of Naval Architects. Candidates for the scholarship must be British subjects under the age of thirty who have passed with marked distinction through